

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 NEA-09 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /094 W

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R 120245 MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8795

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 1616

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR KS PE CE UN

SUBJECT: ROK/DPRK ATTENDANCE AT FUTURE NON-ALLIGEND CONFERENCES

BEGIN SUMMARY: ROKG REQUESTS US REACTION TO APPROACH
DESIGNED TO GIVE ROK SAME STATUS AS DPRK AT FORTHCOMING
LIMA CONFERENCE OF NON-ALIGNED MINISTERS AND AT
CONFERENCE NON-ALIGNED HEADS OF STATE IN COLOMBO NEXT
YEAR. END SUMMARY

1. VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS LHO SHIN YONG
INFORMED DCM MARCH 11 THAT ROKG, CONCERNED OVER MANNER
IN WHICH ROK HAD BEEN EXCLUDED FROM RECENT DAKAR
CONFERENCE WHEREAS DPRK HAD GIVEN OBSERVER STATUS BY ACCLAMATION,
HOPES TO MOVE VERY SOON TO FORESTALL UNILATERAL ATTEN-
DANCE BY DPRK AT FUTURE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCES. TO
ACHIEVE THIS, ROKG HAS CONCEIVED PROPOSAL WHEREBY
FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD WRITE CONFIDENTIAL LETTER TO
HIS COUNTER PARTS IN LIMA AND COLOMBO ASKING THAT ROKG
BE GRANTED OBSERVER STATUS AT CONFERENCES OF NON-ALIGNED
NATIONS THEY WILL HOST. IN MEANTIME, ROK PROPOSES TO
LOBBY HARD WITH THOSE NON-ALIGNED NATIONS WHICH IT
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EXPECTS TO BE SYMPATHETIC TO CONCEPT THAT ROK AND DPRK SHOULD BE TREATED IN SAME MANNER IN CONNECTION WITH ATTENDANCE AT NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCES.

2. LHO SAID MOFA ANALYSIS OF SITUATION IS THAT GOVERNMENTS OF PERU AND SRI LANKA ARE RELATIVELY NEUTRAL ON KOREAN QUESTION AND, AS HOST NATIONS, COULD BE PERSUADED THAT IT WOULD BE UNFAIR TO HAVE DPRK UNILATERALLY REPRESENTED. MOFA FEELS THAT SUCH ATTITUDE ON PART OF HOST NATION, COMBINED WITH SYMPATHY OF OTHERS AMONG NON-ALIGNED WITH WHOM ROKG INTENDS TO LOBBY, COULD RESULT IN EITHER OBSERVER STATUS FOR BOTH ROK AND DPRK OR EXCLUSION OF BOTH. HE SAID ROK HAS NO REAL PREFERENCE BETWEEN THESE POSSIBLE RESULTS, BUT IS VERY ANXIOUS TO BLOCK DPRK'S UNILATERAL ASSOCIATION WITH THIS LARGE AND INCREASINGLY INFLUENTIAL BLOCK OF NATIONS.

3. LHO SAID HE REALIZED THAT SUGGESTED INITIATIVE MIGHT CAUSE SOME CONCERN WITHIN USG. ROKG WOULD NOT PROCEED WITH PLAN, HE SAID, WERE THE US TO OBJECT. HE THEREFORE ASKED THAT EMBASSY INFORM WASHINGTON OF FOREGOING AND OBTAIN REACTION SOONEST.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: INFORMATION ON WHICH TO BASE REPLY.
SNEIDER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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